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FROM THE SOUTH.—The Northern papers give extracts from Richmond papers to the 20th inst. The Richmond Whig argues that no tobacco be planted this year in Virginia and North Carolina, but that every available acre of ground be cultivated for breadstuffs. Gen. Houston contributed, on the 16th, \$100 for the benefit of the wounded in the Galveston fight. Mr. Michael Kenny was killed on the 10th inst., by a Mr. Golsby, in a duel near West Point, Ga. Both were of Selma, Ala. The Richmond Whig announces the landing of twenty or thirty thousand of Hooker's army at Newport News and Suffolk, and thinks the movement merely means their purpose of securely holding these points. Theodore Whitman was discharged under a writ of habeas corpus, in the Richmond Hustling Court, under a judgment ignoring martial law. Belle Boyd was serenaded not long since at Knoxville, Tenn., and said in reply:—"Gentlemen: Like Gen. Johnson, I can fight but cannot make speeches." Captain Wm. Damron, captured by Floyd's army in Kentucky, and another Federal captain, are at hard labor in the Richmond penitentiary, in retaliation.

WAR NEWS.—A press dispatch from Memphis, dated Saturday last, furnishes advices from Vicksburg to Wednesday, the 18th inst. On that day the mortar boats of the Federal fleet attacked the Confederate works, three of their batteries responding. It was soon found that the Federal position was too much exposed and it was changed, and the bombardment renewed, but the effect of the firing is not known.

A dispatch from Aquia creek says: "A snow storm commenced late on Saturday night, and continued until yesterday afternoon, drifting in some places from two to three feet deep. The snow, on an average, fell to the depth of about seven inches. The shelter tents of the soldiers afforded but poor protection from the storm last night. The atmosphere was piercingly cold, causing some frost-bitten extremities.—Previous to the storm the mud had partially dried up, but now many days must elapse before the roads will become passable under the most favorable auspices."

The fact that a large number of ambulances were shipped from Cincinnati on February 16, with orders that they should be at Nashville on the 20th, is taken as indicative of an early engagement.

The will of Nicholas Longworth, of Cincinnati, leaves all his property to his widow and children. His estate is estimated from six to seven millions. He leaves his widow the homestead and an annuity of \$6,000, free from all taxes. The remainder is divided between his son, Joseph Longworth, his daughters, Mrs. Flagg and Mrs. Larz Anderson, and his grandson, John L. Stettinas. He gave his faithful colored servant, who has been with him over twenty years, the sum of \$500. To the children of a deceased sister he gives \$500 each.

CONGRESS.—In the U. S. Senate, yesterday, the committee of conference on the miscellaneous appropriation bill presented a report striking out the mileage proposition, leaving the old law for the payment of mileage to members, in operation. The report was accepted and the bill passed. The bill for the discharge of State prisoners was discussed until adjournment. In the House, the committee on elections reported unfavorably on the claims of C. L. Grafton, of North Carolina, and Jennings Piggott, of Virginia, to seats in the House. The bill for the enrollment and calling out of the national forces was taken up and an animated debate ensued. At the night session, on re-assembling the House resumed the consideration of the conscription bill, and Mr. Sheffield advocated the bill. Mr. White opposed it. During the debate Mr. Vallandigham characterized the remarks of Mr. Campbell as offensive, and calculated to engender bitterness and severity. Such threats could not deter any one from expressing opinions.—He would throw them back in his (Campbell's) teeth, and spurn and spit upon them.

Mr. Campbell said it is a significant fact that the gentleman applied his remarks to himself and colleague, (Mr. White.) He was only denouncing traitors, which was his duty, if Mr. Vallandigham was one of them. Personal character he could not help.

Mr. Vallandigham. I yielded the floor as to a gentleman, and not to a blackguard.

Mr. Campbell. The member himself is a blackguard. (Applause in the galleries.)

Mr. Robinson demanded that the galleries be cleared. They had been insulted time and again by army contractors and government plunderers.

Mr. Cox said there was only a small number thus engaged—fool killers can take care of them.

Mr. Robinson withdrew his motion.

The Speaker reminded the galleries that this was a deliberative body.

Mr. Vallandigham resumed and continued his remarks against the bill.

A little negro girl, supposed to be about 12 years old, who was raised near the eastern foot of the Alleghany Mountains, was brought to Winchester, Va., a few days since, by a gentleman who got her for a song, as she was supposed to be almost idiotic, and consequently of little value. But her new owner soon discovered that she was passionately fond of music, and possessed wonderful talent in imitating on the piano anything she heard played. She would steal into the parlor in spite of the family or punishment, and having soon learned the scale, would perform a most astonishing imitation of any piece that she listened to. Her impromptu music is most remarkable. She is ugly, thick-lipped, cross-eyed, and monkey headed; but when she sits up to the instrument and without any running up and down the gamut, she throws back her head, and her spare, claw-like fingers will dance about the keys, performing the wildest and most delightful strains. She seems perfectly lost, knows no stopping, unless picked up and carried or dragged out of the room. In five minutes after, she is sound asleep, apparently exhausted. The house is besieged daily and nightly by people, and her master talks of taking or sending her North—partly for her sake, and particularly to get rid of the crowd.

Senator Wade, in his report respecting Utah Territory, makes this statement:—"Although claiming to have population enough to entitle them to be admitted as a State into the Union, they have but one paper published in the Territory, thus plainly showing an inexplicable desire to know nothing of what is going on in the world, or else a desire to avoid free discussion. It is the first instance in the history of our country in which so large a population has been satisfied with one paper."

Gen. Casey is hard at work upon the new system of tactics for the African regiments.—The General is somewhat puzzled to know what changes to establish between the white and black tactics; but it is necessary that his book should be completed immediately, in order that the colored soldiers who are to replace the two years' men may be seasonably instructed and placed in the field.

Gen. R. E. Lee's family consisted of several children, viz:—William, Fitzhugh, Custis, Robert, Annie, Mary, Mildred and Agnes.—Annie died on one of the estates of her father, situated in North Carolina, surrounded by her mother and sisters.

During the past year twelve newspapers suspended publication in New Jersey.

Hon. Sherrard Clemens, of Wheeling, in the olden times represented a district in Western Virginia in Congress and did what he could to prevent Virginia seceding. Since the war broke out he has taken no part in public affairs until his appearance in Wheeling a short time since. In his speech he took extreme grounds against the party now ruling the country and vehemently denounced the proposition to divide the state.

The New York World says:—"The Navy Department, we are informed and believe, is in possession of startling information regarding frauds in the sale of prize property."

The Boston Transcript states that "one of our largest publishing houses is about sending the stereotype plates of a bulky octavo volume to England to be printed; the cost of paper in America being so ruinously advanced, the work can be done cheaper abroad, reckoning in all the expenses of freight, duties and exchange."

Both Houses of the U. S. Congress have passed the bill to prevent correspondence with the Confederates. It provides that if any person, being a citizen of the United States, and residing in a foreign country, or any citizen thereof, without permission of the government of the United States, and with the intent to defeat the measures of the government, shall, either directly or indirectly, open any correspondence or intercourse with the Confederate government, or any individual acting or sympathizing therewith, or who shall counsel or assist in such proceedings, shall be deemed guilty of high misdemeanor, and, on conviction, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$10,000, and imprisonment not less than six months or more than five years.